

Law Student Opportunities

Civil Law Division

Correctional Law Section

San Diego



The Civil Law Division, Correctional Law Section ("CLS"), provides exciting and rewarding opportunities for candidates interested in pursuing a career in public service and, specifically, correctional law litigation.

Deputy Attorneys General in CLS represent employees of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation in civil suits filed by prisoners and parolees. Cases range in scope from individual damages claims to large-scale class actions seeking permanent injunctive relief, and from state tort claims to complex constitutional issues. Deputies are responsible for their own cases from the initial appearance in trial court through appeal, and appear regularly in both state and federal courts. The majority of cases are federal civil rights lawsuits and habeas petitions challenging conditions of confinement or adverse parole suitability determinations.

Students selected as semester or summer interns will assist deputies with legal research and writing projects; prepare civil pleadings, including motions to dismiss and motions for summary judgment; draft civil discovery requests and responses; and assist in drafting appellate briefs. Interns may have the opportunity to accompany and assist deputies at depositions and trials. Many of the San Diego deputies are former interns.

Students interested in applying for a semester or summer intern position must have excellent writing, research, and analytical skills. Applicants should have completed law school classes in constitutional law, civil procedure, and legal research and writing. Appellate and trial advocacy classes may also be helpful, but not required. Applications from first-year students who have completed the recommended courses will also be considered. The positions are generally unpaid; however, students may obtain school credit for their work.

How to Apply:

Students interested in applying for an intern position with the Correctional Law Section in the San Diego Office should submit a cover letter, resume, writing sample, and law school transcript to:

Collette Cavalier, Deputy Attorney General
California Attorney General's Office
110 West A Street, Suite 1100
San Diego, CA 92101